



NEWS RELEASE

WISCONSIN DISTRICT OFFICE

U. S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

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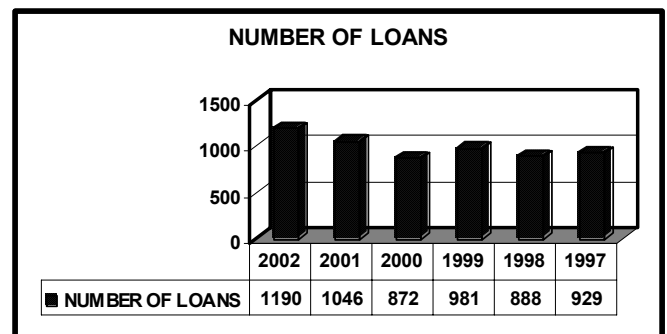
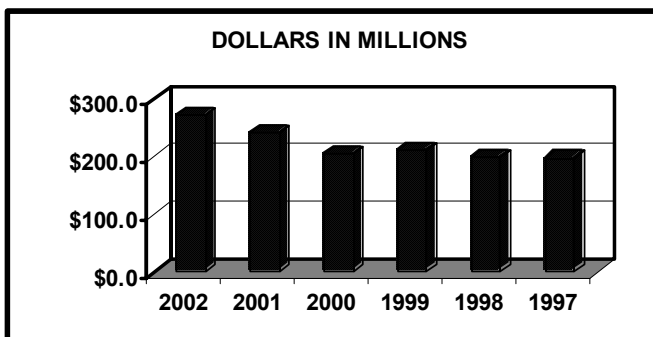


WISCONSIN SBA FY 2002 STATISTICS

MILWAUKEE: – In Fiscal Year 2002, which ended September 30, 2002, small businesses in Wisconsin received 1,190 loan guarantees totaling \$271,496,917 in financing backed by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

There were 1,072 7(a) loan guarantees for approximately \$215 million and 118 Certified Development Company (CDC) loans for \$57 million. There were 62 micro loans for \$1,106,360 and 60 disaster loans totaling \$7 million.

There has been a steady upward climb in number of loans and dollar amount as evidenced by the charts below.



This represents a twenty-two percent increase in the numbers of 7(a) loans and a three percent increase in the number of 504 loans over the number of loans in 2001.

Wisconsin's Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) 343 members volunteered 17,176 hours assisting 4,145 individuals and small business owners in the process of starting their own businesses. They also conducted 131 small business workshops attended by 2,146 people.

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Wisconsin's Small Business Development Companies (SBDC's), located at 12 of the University of Wisconsin campuses, assisted 1,651 individuals and conducted 439 seminars attended by 8,852 people.

Wisconsin's SBA loan portfolio was 4,729 active loan guarantees worth \$792 million as of September 30, 2002.

Wisconsin District Director Eric Ness said, "Fiscal Year 2002 has been a very rewarding year for SBA in serving Wisconsin's small business communities in a challenging economic environment. We look forward to, and stay committed to, delivering the best possible service to Wisconsin's small business communities in FY 2003."

The SBA helps small businesses each year with access to capital and credit through its financial assistance programs, as well as assisting small business owners with technical training and counseling services. For more information about all of the SBA's programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U-ASK-SBA or TDD 704-344-6640. Also, visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.

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